

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/790,292	WALL, JOHN W.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Matthew O. Savage	1724	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 6-1-05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 13-16, 27, 24-26, 17-21, and 28-31 renumbered 1-17, respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)                      |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance             |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____  |

Matthew O Savage  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 1724

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An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Kevin D. Bailey on 9-2-05.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of removing an oil filter from a filter cap, the oil filter being configured to remove impurities from oil upon passage of the oil through the oil filter comprising the steps of:

removing from a housing of an oil filter assembly said filter cap with said oil filter secured to said filter cap;

moving an actuator which extends through a side wall of said filter cap so as to exert a force on said oil filter after removal of said filter; and

moving said oil filter relative to said side wall in response to said force being exerted on said oil filter.

On line 4 of claim 19, "therein" has been changed to --thereon--.

On line 3 of claim 24, "therein" has been changed to --thereon--.

27. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein:

said oil filter has a post extending therefrom;

said post having a spheroid-shaped member defined ~~therein~~ thereon;

said step of moving said oil filter comprises exerting said force on said spheroid-shaped member; and

said step of moving said filter retainer comprises moving said filter retainer relative to said side wall from the retention position in which said filter retainer retains said spheroid-shaped member to the release position in which said spheroid-shaped member is movable relative to said filter cap in response to said force being exerted on said spheroid-shaped member.

On line 1 of claim 29, "the" has been changed to --a--.

The paragraph on page 1, line 4 of the specification has been amended as follows:

-- This application is a divisional of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/102,132 which was filed on March 20, 2002, now U.S. Patent 6,770,196, and is hereby incorporated by reference herein. --.

On line 20 of page 5 of the specification, --threadless-- has been inserted before "spring-loaded".

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The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Luby taken in combination with Kamrath is considered the closest prior art, however, Luby fails to teach or suggest:

The step removing from a housing of an oil filter assembly said filter cap with said oil filter secured to said filter cap as recited in instant claim 13; or

The step of moving each of a plurality of spring arms from a retention position in which said plurality of spring arms cooperate to retain the post to a release position in which said post is moveable relative to said filter cap in response to said force being exerted on said oil filter as recited in claim 17; or

The steps of urging the spheroid-shaped member into contact with each of said plurality of spring arms, and moving each of a plurality of spring arms from a retention position in which the plurality of spring arms cooperate to retain said spheroid-shaped member to a release position in which said post is movable relative to said filter cap in response to the urging step as recited in instant claim 19.

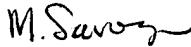
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew O. Savage whose telephone number is (571) 272-1146. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:00am-3:30pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on (571) 272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Matthew O Savage  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1724

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September 2, 2005